

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/776,970  
Amendment dated September 26, 2005  
Response to Office Action dated July 6, 2005

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claims 1-13 (Cancelled)

Claim 14 (Currently amended): A reagent ~~kit~~ set for detecting a cholesterol in a high-density lipoprotein, comprising a first reagent and a second reagent, wherein said first reagent comprises an ion strength increasing compound and a nonionic surfactant that has an HLB value of 16 or more, and said second reagent comprises a first enzyme ~~reacting~~ that reacts the cholesterol in the high-density lipoprotein and a second enzyme comprising cholesterol dehydrogenase or cholesterol oxidase, or both.

Claim 15 (Currently amended): The reagent ~~kit~~ set of claim 14, wherein the ion strength increasing compound is hydrazine, hydrazine salt, hydrazine hydrate, hydrazine solvate, NaCl, urea, guanidine, or semicarbazide.

Claim 16 (Currently amended): The reagent ~~kit~~ set of claim 14, wherein the ion strength increasing compound is hydrazine.

Claim 17 (Currently amended): The reagent ~~kit~~ set of claim 16, wherein the first reagent comprises the hydrazine ~~of~~ at a concentration of 30mM or more.

Claim 18 (Currently amended): The reagent ~~kit~~ set of claim 14, wherein the nonionic surfactant has a HLB value of ~~16~~ 17 or more.

Claim 19 (Currently amended): The reagent ~~kit~~ set of claim 14, wherein the first enzyme is lipoprotein lipase or cholesterol esterase.

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Claim 20 (Currently amended): The reagent kit set of claim 19, wherein the first enzyme is derived from *Chromobacterium viscosum*.

Claim 21 (Currently amended): The reagent kit set of claim 14, wherein the second enzyme is cholesterol dehydrogenase, and

the first reagent comprises  $\beta$ -nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide of ~~the~~ an oxide type, thionicotinamide adenine dinucleotide of ~~the~~ an oxide type,  $\beta$ -nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate of the an oxide type or thionicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate of ~~the~~ an oxide type, or combinations thereof.

Claim 22 (Currently amended): A reagent kit set for detecting a cholesterol in a low-density lipoprotein, comprising a first reagent and a second reagent, wherein said first reagent comprises an ion strength increasing compound, a first nonionic surfactant which has an HLB value of 16 or more, a first enzyme reacting a cholesterol in a high-density lipoprotein and a second enzyme selected from cholesterol dehydrogenase or cholesterol oxidase, or both and the second reagent comprising a second nonionic surfactant which has an HLB value of 11 to 13.

Claim 23 (Currently amended): The reagent kit set of claim 22 wherein the second reagent comprises a third enzyme ~~reacting~~ that reacts the cholesterol in the low-density lipoprotein.

Claim 24 (Currently amended): The reagent kit set of claim 23, wherein the third enzyme is lipoprotein lipase or cholesterol esterase.

Claim 25 (Currently amended): The reagent kit set of claim 24, wherein the third enzyme is derived from *Pseudomonas*.

Claim 26 (Currently amended): The reagent kit set of claim 22, wherein the second nonionic surfactant has a HLB value of 11 to 13.

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Claim 27 (Currently amended): The reagent ~~kit~~ set of claim 22, wherein the ion strength increasing compound is hydrazine, hydrazine salt, hydrazine hydrate, hydrazine solvate, NaCl, urea, guanidine, or semicarbazide, or combinations thereof.

Claim 28 (Currently amended): The reagent ~~kit~~ set of claim 22, wherein the ion strength increasing compound is hydrazine.

Claim 29 (Currently amended): The reagent ~~kit~~ set of claim 28, wherein the first reagent comprises the hydrazine at a concentration of 30mM or more.

Claim 30 (Currently amended): The reagent ~~kit~~ set of claim 22, wherein the first nonionic surfactant has a HLB value of ~~46~~ 17 or more.

Claim 31 (Currently amended): The reagent ~~kit~~ set of claim 22, wherein the first enzyme is lipoprotein lipase or cholesterol esterase, or both.

Claim 32 (Currently amended): The reagent ~~kit~~ set of claim 31, wherein the first enzyme is derived from *Chromobacterium viscosum*.

Claim 33 (Currently amended): The reagent ~~kit~~ set of claim 22, wherein the second enzyme is cholesterol dehydrogenase, and

the first reagent comprises  $\beta$ -nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide of ~~the~~ an oxide type, thionicotinamide adenine dinucleotide of ~~the~~ an oxide type,  $\beta$ -nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate of ~~the~~ an oxide type, or thionicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate of ~~the~~ an oxide type, or combinations thereof.

Claim 34 (Currently amended): A method of assaying cholesterol, comprising:

providing the ~~kit~~ reagent set of claim 14; and

utilizing the ~~kit~~ reagent set to assay a high-density lipoprotein fraction of a sample from a patient, wherein utilizing the reagent set to assay a high-density lipoprotein fraction comprises

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introducing the first reagent to the sample, introducing the second reagent to the sample and quantitating cholesterol generated by action of the first reagent and second reagent on the sample.

Claim 35 (Currently amended): A method of assaying cholesterol in a low density lipoprotein fraction of a sample, comprising:

providing the ~~kit~~ reagent set of claim 22; and

utilizing the ~~kit~~ reagent set to assay a low density lipoprotein fraction of a patient, wherein utilizing the reagent set to assay a low-density lipoprotein fraction comprises introducing the first reagent to the sample, introducing the second reagent to the sample and quantitating cholesterol generated by action of the first reagent and second reagent on the sample.